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The Honorable Charles H. Percy
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Percy:

Thank you for your letter of 31 July 1973, about which you telephoned me. As I indicated on the telephone, I am happy to reconfirm the assurances given in Dr. Schlesinger's letter to Senator Fulbright of 1 March 1973, that any CIA briefing or training of domestic police, law enforcement or internal security personnel would be undertaken in the future only in the most compelling circumstances and with the Director's personal approval.

As I commented on the telephone, our position is to avoid such relationships in the future. Nevertheless, I believe it would be unwise to eliminate any possibility of such a relationship, as a fully justifiable requirement might arise. An example might be the need to brief a local law enforcement agency on a foreign terrorist organization posing a threat to that community. In such a circumstance, however, I assure you that the matter will be the subject of full consultation with the appropriate oversight committees of the Congress. This should limit any such activity to fully justifiable situations and avoid the danger of CIA involvement in domestic affairs, which we all wish CIA to avoid.

May I also express my appreciation to you for your vote for my confirmation and for your positive remarks about me on the floor. I will endeavor in the execution of my new duties to justify the confidence you showed in me.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

/s/

W. E. Colby

DD/S&T
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